

IN THE CLAIMS:

Applicant amends the claims as follows:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (new): A spring activated pool cue designed to strike a billiard ball comprising:

- a) a front barrel wherein said front barrel has a lengthwise internal opening of a first uniform diameter,
- b) a rear barrel wherein said rear barrel has a lengthwise internal opening of said first uniform diameter and a second uniform diameter,
- c) wherein said second uniform diameter is larger than said first uniform diameter and said second uniform diameter is located at the rear end of said rear barrel,
- d) a spring actuation assembly designed to fit inside said second uniform diameter comprising:
 - i) a threaded shaft which compresses an activation spring when said threaded shaft is rotated,
 - ii) wherein said activation spring is pressed against a release cylinder, and
 - iii) wherein said release cylinder is restricted to move parallel to the lengthwise direction of said rear barrel,
- e) wherein said threaded shaft protrudes out of the rear of said rear barrel and is connected to an adjusting knob which is fixed to said threaded shaft,
- f) an activation button designed to fit inside said release cylinder wherein said activation button restricts movement of said release cylinder when in a first position and allows said release cylinder to move when in a second position,

- g) wherein said activation button is restricted to move substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise direction of said rear barrel and said activation button prevents said release cylinder from rotating,
- h) wherein said activation button is positioned to protrude partially out of said rear barrel,
- i) wherein a reset spring provides a nominal force to push said activation button toward said first position,
- j) an impact rod which comprises a front section and a rear section wherein said rear section is connected to said release cylinder,
- k) wherein said impact rod is located substantially within said front barrel and said rear barrel,
- l) wherein a small portion of said front section protrudes outwardly from said front barrel and said small portion of said front section is rigidly connected to a tip,
- m) wherein said tip is designed to strike against said billiard ball and said tip optionally incorporates a removable end piece,
- n) wherein said front section and said rear section are connected together by a first threaded connection,
- o) wherein said front barrel and said rear barrel are connected together by a second threaded connection, and
- p) wherein said spring activated pool cue operates by moving said activation button from said first position to said second position.

Claim 11 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein the outside diameter of said front barrel and the outside diameter of said rear barrel are machined to provide a partial taper.

Claim 12 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein the outside diameter of said rear barrel incorporates a surface texture.

Claim 13 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein the outside diameter of said front barrel and the outside diameter of said rear barrel incorporates an anodized finish or paint.

Claim 14 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein

- a) said first uniform diameter is between $1/8$ of an inch to $3/16$ of an inch inclusive,
- b) said second uniform diameter is substantially $5/8$ of an inch,
- c) said second uniform diameter is between 4 to 6 inches long inclusive inside said rear barrel, and
- d) said activation button is substantially $3/8$ of an inch in diameter.

Claim 15 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein the overall length of said spring activated pool cue is substantially 4 and $1/2$ feet long.

Claim 16 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein said front barrel, said rear barrel including said rear impact rod, and said front impact rod are each less than 2 and $1/2$ feet long when said spring activated cue is disassembled at said first threaded connection and at said second threaded connection.

Claim 17 (new): The spring activated pool cue according to claim 10 wherein said first uniform diameter and said second uniform diameter are created by a drilling operation and an optional machining operation.